

SUPPLEMENT.

A REPLY.

"I shall, no doubt, be criticised by many for dwelling so long on a subject which to them will appear low, vulgar, and trifling. . . . Were I to treat my subject superficially, my writing would be of no use to any body, and my labor would be lost; but by investigating it thoroughly I may, perhaps, engage others to pay that attention to it which, from its importance, it deserves."—COUNT RUMFORD.

I find myself the subject of an offensive paragraph in a printed circular which, though without signature, was issued by the Louisville Medical College of this city. This circular has been distributed among the students now in attendance on my lectures at the University of Louisville, and scattered broadcast over the country.

I have also been assailed by the same source, over its faculty name, in the Courier-Journal newspaper.

Attacks of such character on my own name I can well afford to leave unanswered. But in both the articles alluded to, and in yet another which I shall recur to presently, the University of Louisville, in whose service my revered father spent all his best days and in which for more than thirty years I have been a teacher, has been assailed in such terms as to make some reply expedient if not necessary.

The other article to which I just referred appeared as an editorial in the January number of the Medical Herald, a journal published in this city and owned by two of the teachers in the Louisville Medical College. It reads as follows: "*The Louisville Medical College has been assailed both in the present and in*

the past by as able a body of perjurers, mendacious scribblers, and unscrupulous slanderers as exist in the land !"

As the University of Louisville was the chief instrument, some years back, in directing public attention to the irregular practices of the Louisville Medical College, and equally the chief agent in compelling that institution to abandon them, the editorial quoted is unmistakably aimed at the University. And the Herald being the organ of the Louisville Medical College, this assault on the University, no less than that contained in the printed circular, and that published in the Courier-Journal, was made by the Louisville Medical College. The three articles are so many attacks upon the University—nothing more, nothing less. The organ of the Louisville Medical College means by the word "*present*" in its editorial also to designate the University. For when it became apparent early last autumn that the Louisville Medical College, after five years of reasonably good behavior, had begun to return to its old sins, the Louisville Medical News journal, edited by two members of the University faculty, asked the school to give over its palpable misconduct. The answer to this request is contained in the several assaults I have indicated.

A sense of duty to the profession at large, to medical teaching, and the University of Louisville in particular, and to myself individually, leads me to undertake a task which, though excessively unpleasant, I shall not find very difficult. It is unpleasant because it involves the exposure of several persons whom I like. It is easy, because I shall rest my case on the written statements of the persons whom I accuse. I shall use plain words because I realize the importance of the subject. I shall use courteous words because I realize my own position. Not many of them will be my words, because better are at hand, furnished by the practices and persons I am going to portray. I shall make no statement which can not be substantiated by documentary evidence.

I am going to make no defense of the University of Louisville. That institution is not on trial. But in the interests of legitimate teaching, and of the dignity and honor of medicine, I am

going² to show the antecedents, the character, and the practices of its assailant. In order to do this in the most effective way I am going to arraign the Louisville Medical College before the bar [of professional opinion—the highest tribunal known to physicians—on the general charge of practices which are disreputable in themselves and subversive of many of the best interests of the profession.

I shall prove that it has broken faith with other medical schools in this city and elsewhere, in that in its printed advertisements its fees are put at eighty dollars, and in the face of these published terms it has flooded the country with so-called beneficiary scholarships, wherein it volunteers to accept fifty, nay even forty dollars for tuition instead of eighty dollars as advertised.

I shall also prove that through its officers and attachés it has solicited in almost every part of America students by letter to accept these scholarships.

I shall establish that in addition to such solicitations being themselves repugnant to all right feeling men, they are in direct violation of articles of public agreement among a large number of the best medical schools of the United States, and contrary to the sentiment of all respectable teaching bodies every where, and³ that the Louisville Medical College signed the agreement referred to.

I shall further show that these letters of solicitation contain statements which are the very opposite of the truth, and promises which in the nature of things could never be fulfilled.

I shall prove that the present is not the first time the Louisville Medical College has sinned in the ways named, but that it is an old offender, one who has been tried and convicted before the same bar in whose presence it now stands of the same high crimes and misdemeanors with which it is now charged.

Finally, I shall prove that the practices which I have named not only bring the profession into disrepute, “but do great mischief to many young men who have been deluded into the snares of the institution.”

Before proceeding to substantiate the foregoing statements by the testimony of witnesses, I shall save time by giving a short sketch of the accused.

The birth of the Louisville Medical College, which occurred in 1869, was regarded wherever known with suspicion. Its very name was believed by the public to have been chosen by its founders in the expectation that it would deceive the unwary, and thus add to the size of its classes. In other terms, it began life as a pirate, in that it imitated a trade-name under which a rival college had during a long and honorable career won deserved distinction.

With its first public announcement the Louisville Medical College entered upon a career of unexampled wrong and pursued it during a period of eight years—from 1869 to 1877—pursued it, indeed, until it was arrested by the Louisville Medical News journal, which prosecuted it with a vigor that secured its early conviction and won a verdict which was received with approval by the profession every where. The institution now publicly confessed its sins and promised to abandon them. It signed written agreements with large numbers of respectable colleges in different parts of the country to charge a uniform rate for tuition, to receive but five per cent of beneficiaries—the basis of calculation being the class of the preceding year—to be careful in the selection of them even—to solicit no one and to underbid other institutions in no way whatever. This was in the summer of 1877. For five years the reform of the Louisville Medical College seemed to be genuine. Occasionally reports would come of a tendency to backslide, but no public charges were laid at its door.

It pursued its way unmolested, but its classes fell off. It made many and radical changes in its faculty, but the falling off in its classes continued. Something had to be done. It abandoned its old quarters, leased a dwelling-house and changed it to a lecture-house. But an open field and honest practices had not proved wholesome to the Louisville Medical College, and realizing that the shrinkage in its classes could be stayed by no

other means it plunged without one moment's warning back into the very nastiness out of which the University had lifted it a few years ago. For a second time it resorted to the same discreditable means which in days gone by had filled its benches.

This was last summer—the summer of 1883.

As a result of these recent misdeeds the institution is now again presented as a public enemy—as the enemy of uprightness and fair dealing in the profession of which it claims to be an instructor.

In this connection I will add that the present Professors of Anatomy and of Obstetrics in the Louisville Medical College held similar positions in that institution during the period alluded to and that the present Professor of Clinical and Operative Surgery was also identified with the institution at an earlier date. Neither of these, therefore, can be allowed to plead in extenuation of this, their second offense, that they were ignorant of the law or the penalty for its infraction. The two first named teachers paid very dearly for a lesson which they seem to have soon forgot.

The present Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine in the Louisville Medical College was, with the late R. O. Cowling, Professor of Surgery in the University of Louisville, co-editor of the Louisville Medical News journal, during the first two years of its existence, the eventful period when that trenchant sheet consecrated its fine powers to exposing the wrongs, uncovering the irregularities, and shattering the shams then practised by the institution in which he now holds a place. He unquestionably contributed his part to holding the Louisville Medical College up to the gaze of men; he assisted in hammering it into a public confession of its sins and extorting from it promises to lead in future a more honorable and cleanly life. I shall not attempt to show that the present Professor of Principles and Practice of Medicine in the Louisville Medical College wrote all the articles contained in that journal assailing the practices of the Louisville Medical College, for he did not. But he certainly wrote some of them, and just as certainly sug-

gested others. And those who knew him at that time—who knew him before he linked his fortunes with the Louisville Medical College, could not be made to believe that he did not sanction and approve the course of that journal when its every issue was an assault upon the evils for which he must now be held in part responsible. But whether he actually penned many or none of the editorials referred to—numbers of which I shall have occasion to introduce in evidence—he was *responsible for ALL throughout the entire time that he was connected with the News*. I do not believe he himself will deny this responsibility. For up to the day that he cast his lot, with the Louisville Medical College, no one was more ready than he to condemn, to denounce, to spit upon whatever was unprofessional or savored of bad faith. None knew better than he did then—none knows better than he does at this moment that the practice of flooding the country with beneficiary scholarships, of urging medical students to accept a medical education as a gratuity, “tends,” as he expressed it in the News, “to destroy the independence of character of the future medical men of the country, to invite into the profession men who have no particular taste for it, but who are tempted by the privilege accorded to them of a cheap medical education.” None realized more fully than he the truth of the following, which appeared in his journal, written perhaps by himself, of the very school in which he is now a teacher, and when its “miserable beneficiary sham,” as he called it, was no more offensive to decent men than at present:

“This is a magnificent sham you are invited to assist; a solemn humbug; a fearful sell.”

“We greatly doubt if there is any thing in the civilized world like the beneficiary system of the Louisville school. The beneficiary system of the school is indefensible even were it built upon a fee ten times as large.”

But to the proof.

The witnesses I shall introduce are drawn exclusively from the institution at the bar. They compose its faculty, and their names and positions are as follows:

C. W. Kelly, M. D., Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy and

Clinical Medicine, Registrar; J. A. Ireland, M. D., Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dean; L. D. Kastenbine, A. M., M. D., Chemistry and Urinology; Turner Anderson, M. D., Materia Medica and Therapeutics; Edward Miller, M. D., Principles and Practice of Surgery, Secretary; W. H. Galt, M. D., Principles and Practice of Medicine; James M. Holloway, M. D., Clinical and Operative Surgery; Sam. Cochran, M. D., Physiology. Demonstrators: Sam. Cochran, M. D., Anatomy; George M. Warner, M. D., Materia Medica and Practice of Medicine; H. B. Ritter, M. D., Obstetrics and Gynecology; Wm. T. Carter, M. D., Diseases of Children.

By these I shall prove beyond all possible question every charge I have made, and, having done so, I shall simply ask the same verdict which was rendered in May, 1877, against the same offender for the same crimes. I shall be content with this; for I am exposing measures, not men.

In order that it may be seen that the Louisville Medical College is guilty of practices which are disreputable in themselves and subversive of many of the best interests of the profession, I ask attention to a few letters, selected at random from innumerable specimens at hand, which were addressed to medical students in Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, etc. Every letter of the many I have bears the official imprint of the Louisville Medical College, and contains a wood-cut of its building, a list of its entire faculty and the names of its trustees.

I take a letter of the Secretary of the Faculty first. He writes:

LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE,
LOUISVILLE, KY., August 10, 1883. }

Dear Sir—I send you to-day one of our catalogues. You will see therein that our regular fee is \$80, but, under the circumstances, I will receive you for one half the regular fee—that is, \$40—so that your entire college expenses, including the graduation fee, will be \$70. As soon as you reach the city, call upon Dr. Kelly or myself, corner of Second and Green streets, and you will at once be shown to a boarding-house, and thus save hotel bill. We will be happy to see you, and will do our best to make you feel at home.

Very respectfully, ——— ———

The Secretary of the Faculty reduces the regular fee by one half, while the Professor of Physiology is a little less liberal and demands fifty dollars :

LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE,
LOUISVILLE, KY., Aug. 15, 1883. }

Dear Sir—A friend writes me that you purpose attending medical lectures. I write to present to you the claims of Louisville—the medical center of the South and West, the healthiest large city in America, beyond the reach of yellow fever, etc. Good board, costing elsewhere \$20 to \$30, can be had here for \$12 to \$15 per month. Owing to our great Exposition, railroad rates will be only half rate. No school has better facilities for medical teaching than the Louisville Medical College. I send you catalogue. As I am allowed a certain number of beneficiaries for your State, I will take you as one, and charge you only \$50 instead of \$80. With this reduction, cheapness of board, and reduced railroad fare, you can attend one of the best schools for less money than an inferior one. Let me hear from you, and send names of other medical students, and oblige yours, etc.,

The Demonstrator of Obstetrics seems to have been accorded the privilege of admitting students on the same terms as those offered by the Secretary of the Faculty—forty dollars—as is shown in the following :

LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

My Dear Sir—A friend writes me that you purpose attending medical lectures. I write to present the claims of Louisville—the medical center of the South and West, the healthiest large city in America. Owing to our Exposition, railroad fare to Louisville will be only one half rate. Good board, costing elsewhere \$20 to \$30, can be had here for \$12 to \$15 per month. No school has better facilities for medical teaching than the Louisville Medical College. As I am allowed a certain number of beneficiaries from your State, I will take you as one, and charge you only \$40 instead of \$80. With this reduction, cheapness of board, and reduced railroad fare, you can attend one of the best schools for less money than an inferior one. Let me hear from you, and send names of other students.

Very truly yours,

The Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology being perhaps too busily engaged in casting the beneficiary drag-net over some

more remote State, confided the State of Tennessee to the Demonstrator of Chemistry. As no such officer appears in the advertisement of the school—from which the copy on a foregoing page was made—it is proper, lest I should be accused of inaccuracy, to say that the office is found in the faculty letter-heads, and is filled by Sam. E. Woody, A. M., M. D., and he writes this letter:

LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE,
LOUISVILLE, KY., August 4, 1883. }

Dear Sir—Yours of day before yesterday was handed me this morning by Prof. Ireland, for the correspondence of Tennessee is usually delegated to me. By this mail I send catalogue. As I am allowed a certain number of beneficiaries from your State, I will take you as one, and charge you only \$50 instead of \$80. With this reduction in fees, together with the cheapness of living in Louisville, and the reduced railroad fare during the Exposition, you can attend one of the best schools for less money than an inferior one. Please let me hear from you. Send names and addresses of other students.

Very truly yours, _____

The Demonstrator of Materia Medica also has beneficiary powers, and writes:

LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE,
LOUISVILLE, KY., October 24, 1883. }

Dear Sir—Yours of September 30th received. I send by this mail catalogue of Louisville Medical Collège. If you will send in your name at once I can procure a beneficiary fee for you. This will be \$50 instead of \$80, as mentioned in catalogue. Dissecting ticket is extra, \$10. Board may be had, as stated in circular, for from \$12 to \$15. This includes lodging, fire, fuel, water, etc.; washing about \$1 per month. Let me hear from you at once, in order that your name may be registered as a beneficiary.

Yours respectfully, _____

I have now shown copies of letters from two professors and three demonstrators. A letter from the fourth demonstrator will appear later.

I shall prove the first and second charges by the following extract from the annual advertisement of the Louisville Medical College for the session of 1883-1884:

"In recognition of the standard of policy adopted by the Association of American Medical Colleges, convened at Chicago, Ill., June 4,

1877, the Beneficiary provisions will be limited to five per cent of the class. The general ticket fee will be \$75.00; Matriculation fee \$5.00."

Lest the foregoing should be thought somewhat ambiguous as to what the Registrar of the Louisville Medical College terms "the Beneficiary provisions," I transcribe the law on this subject as framed by the Association of American Medical Colleges:

The same fees may be reduced or remitted to deserving, indigent students, to a number not exceeding *five* per cent of the number of matriculates at the previous regular session of the college.

Under no circumstances whatever other than the above shall the faculties, or any members of the same, grant *upon their own authority* any remissions or reductions of established fees. And it is distinctly understood and agreed that the faculties will discountenance and oppose the authorizing by governing boards of the admission of individual students on other than the regularly established charges for their grade.

This makes "the beneficiary provisions" more easily understood. If the Louisville Medical College had eighty students at the session of 1882-3, it was, by the above compact, which it once signed with other colleges, entitled to grant just four beneficiary scholarships—no more. And yet its professors and demonstrators absolutely vie with each other in scattering these "beneficiary provisions," as they are called by the Registrar, from the Lakes to the Gulf. Was ever greater cheek exhibited by any institution of learning—by any institution of any kind—than that of the Louisville Medical College, which, professing in its printed advertisements to yield obedience to the law of the Association of Medical Colleges, is actually engaged, from the secretary down to the last of the demonstrators, in writing to students all over the country, offering to take them at half the price charged by neighboring schools?

Acknowledging fealty to the behests of the American Association of Medical Colleges, indeed! IT to publish in its circulars that "in recognition of the standard of policy adopted by the Association of American Medical Colleges convened at Chicago, June, 1877, the Beneficiary provisions will be limited to

five per cent of the class," *when it would be passing strange if out of all its present class five per cent could be found who were NOT beneficiaries!*

IT to state that it recognizes the policy adopted by the Association of American Medical Colleges, and with one hand to stand and distribute advertisements wherein its charges are fixed at eighty dollars, and with the other to indite letters to every student of medicine it can hear of, offering its tickets for forty dollars, just one half its advertised rates!

Reader, I know that after following me thus far you are prepared for almost any thing. No doubt you have about concluded that there is nothing the Louisville Medical College could do that would surprise you. But wait. I am going to tell you something now which would be impossible of belief were there not volumes of irrefragable proof and the author was any other than the Louisville Medical College. Here it is.

When the Louisville Medical News, edited now, mark you, by two teachers in the University of Louisville, had every letter that I have produced, another that I shall use later, and scores of others which I hold in reserve, it took occasion in a very temperate editorial, which appeared in November last, to call the attention of the authors to the *evil* of their conduct and warn them of its consequences. Whereupon the Faculty of the Louisville Medical College rushed into print in the circular letter I have previously mentioned *and flatly denied the entire charge.*

THIS DENIAL WAS MADE WHEN THE LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE KNEW THAT THE VERY PROOF I AM NOW USING FOR ITS CONVICTION WAS IN POSSESSION OF THE PUBLIC.

You ask, was there ever before such assurance? Yes. Who displayed it? THE LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE. When? In 1876. And in this way.

For a period of eight years—that is, from its youth up—the institution named had engaged in this same "wholesale debauchery," as it was styled by the Louisville Medical News—the News, mark you, being edited, as I have said, at *that* time by the late Dr. Cowling and the present Professor of the Principles and

Practice in the Louisville Medical College. [Shall I say that the last named editor did not then occupy his present position?] The News openly charged the Louisville Medical College with being guilty of this and other iniquities. When lo! that institution not only denied the charges from A to izzard, but actually **BRANDED THEM AS FALSEHOODS**, and, to quote from the News, "Such a gush of billingsgate as ensued has never been heard since men fed on fish. 'Abortion,' 'coarseness,' 'impudence,' 'stench in the medical nostrils,' 'noisy ass,' 'Hottentot,' were some of the milder epithets with which the air was filled. And all this against the noble breast of the Louisville Medical News for its inveterate habit of telling the truth."

The public understood even at that time what weight to attach to statements coming from the Louisville Medical College, for right on the heels of this charge of falsehood against the News, the Medical College Convention spoke thus pointedly of the practice for which the News had assailed the Louisville Medical College: "The beneficiary system which is carried to such perfection in the school of double diplomas is unqualifiedly condemned"—the school of double diplomas as well as beneficiary scholarships being the Louisville Medical College.

As still further showing the temper of the professional mind concerning this beneficiary business, the Provisional Association of American Medical Colleges passed the following whereas and resolutions at its meeting held June, 1876, in Philadelphia:

Whereas, The practice of reducing or remitting in individual cases the established fees of a college has the objectionable feature of discriminating between students who may be equally deserving, and opening the door to possible gross abuses; therefore

Resolved, That this convention regards the above privilege as one to be deprecated in general, and, if put into practice at all, to be exercised both rarely and reluctantly, and only in unusual circumstances, and after *unsolicited* application by proven deserving candidates.

Resolved, That any thing like a wholesale system of such reduction or remission of established fees, or *any open solicitation of recipients of such favors*, be regarded as in the highest degree improper, and

that any college indulging in such practices deserves to forfeit its place on the *ad eundem* list of medical colleges.

The next four charges I shall establish by the following letter, which in its way has no parallel in medical annals, and places its writer *facile princeps* in epistolary literature. For truth and modesty it is certainly unrivaled. It alone would establish almost every charge I have made. It was written by the Demonstrator of Diseases of Children :

LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE,
LOUISVILLE, KY., August 14, 1883. }

Dear Sir—Your name has been kindly sent to me by a friend. I am not informed at what school you have taken your first course, but I am certainly anxious to have you take your last one with the Louisville Medical College—the foremost school in this country. It has graduated hundreds of the most successful practitioners in the world; and I am told that you will not fail to add luster to its name, should you wisely consent to complete your education here. This school has many important features possessed by no other school in the world, and has never been equaled as a brilliant instructor.

A limited number of beneficiary tickets will be issued to Kentucky students this fall. Now, if you wish to avail yourself of this favor, call upon me, or write at your earliest convenience.

The stage-coach from your place passes by my house. If you will stop as you come in town, you will certainly never regret having done so. The reputation you will acquire by graduating at the Louisville Medical College will aid you in obtaining a practice wherever you locate. Your preceptor will lose interest in you as soon as you locate and become his competitor for practice; but this school will assist you, if you need it, until you become, what all young men should strive to be, the best of good physicians. Call and become acquainted with the plan of instruction pursued by the Louisville Medical College. Believe me your friend,

I shall not consume time by making copies of other letters, all of the same tenor, most in the same stereotyped style, and all signed by either professors or demonstrators in the Louisville Medical College. I have already said that I have numbers of them on file.

I would fain rest my case here, for I have no further stomach for this miserable business. But the same sense of duty which led me to undertake the painful task urges me to its completion.

The next witness I shall introduce is the Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine in the Louisville Medical College, by whom I shall prove the remaining charges. I shall allow him to tell in his own way what he thought in 1876 and 1877 of the school in which he now holds a chair—to tell in his own pointed words what he thought of the very practices of which, to the mortification of his many friends, be it said, he now declares himself to be the champion and defender. I shall not ask him to repeat all he said at the time referred to, for that would require page upon page to be added to an article already much too long.

He wrote in 1876 and 1877 that—

The Louisville School, in its desperate efforts to fill its benches, leaves no stone unturned.

"Certain medical schools which annually flood this country with what they term 'scholarships' or beneficiary certificates, or some kind of positively irregular solicitations—or, as the students in their letters to other deans term them, 'inducements'—to students to attend their lectures. This college has sent circulars to our janitor for distribution among our class while in actual attendance upon lectures, and 'scholarships,' or 'beneficiary tickets,' to others of our students."

The News copies this from another journal and asks 'Who it can be?' Need the reader be told who?

"Mr. Sale, the first witness, stated that it was the habit of this school to take students at even a lower figure than he had paid; in short, that students are taken at any price they choose to pay. In corroboration of this, Sale produced a letter signed by Dr. Gaillard, Dean of the Faculty, to a young man in Canada, offering to take him through a whole course of lectures for twenty-five dollars, and it is claimed that by the use of such means as these the Louisville Medical College has been enabled to swell its list of students to its present proportions.

They are not only bringing the profession into disgrace, but are doing great mischief to many innocent young men whom they have deluded into their snares.

We shall look to it that men who advertise over their "official signatures" for takers for these plausible documents shall know exactly what they are doing.

We owe it not only to the profession to attempt to stop this flood-gate, but to many honest young men who are being seduced by such plausible means to earn diplomas of which they can not in after life but be ashamed.

By an artfully contrived system of beneficiary scholarships modern medical schools are built up, and their benches are filled with students.

How long does he think that it would be before the profession would be contemptible, especially if all should go to work flooding the country with "beneficiary scholarships," urging students to accept a medical education as a gratuity? Does any one believe that the honor of the profession could survive such a policy?

The Deluded Beneficiaries.—The beneficiaries are continuing to arrive in the city—not in the same numbers as they did before the News began to expose the sham, but there are still far too many of them for the dignity of medicine, or, indeed, of manhood.

In contemplating this miserable beneficiary sham, one can but ask with the editor of the Richmond and Louisville Medical Journal, in the issue for January, 1869, By what principle of ethics are dishonorable practices in the doctor honorable in the teacher?

"What the Bi-Weekly [the organ of the Louisville Medical College] charged, and continues to charge, is that for a year or more the 'News' published in almost every issue statements in regard to the Louisville Medical College which are not true. The statements were known to the 'News' to be untrue, and yet they were persistently and interminably published," etc.

"Was it a falsehood to say that the beneficiary system of the Louisville School was the hollowest sham of the century? Are there *three* men in the school who are not beneficiaries?

"Was it a falsehood to say that the blather in which the Louisville circulars indulge about its being a high-fee school was 'conspicuously absurd?' Does n't it make you laugh?

"Do not the most of the students who go there feel called on to apologize for doing so?

"We have produced demonstrative proof for all we have said."

It does seem unnecessary for us to enter into any argument to convince professional readers of the evils of this system; it seems too patent.

The profession should certainly take the trouble to understand the matter. It is interested in stopping this wholesale debauchery. It can have no interest in pulling the drag-net which is to gather men so indiscriminately into its ranks. Students of medicine should know what is in store for them should they accept these singular gifts. They are to be branded as paupers.

In an open letter addressed by the News to the College Convention when it was about to assemble in 1877 it said :

"Any decision in regard to fees will be but an utter farce if it does not provide for the control of beneficiary scholarships. This journal has thoroughly exposed one of the most hideous forms in which the scholarship system is run. The convention could strike a double blow at this cunning piece of machinery by presenting it to the consideration of the Association and publishing to the people at large the discreditable work they are being seduced into doing. If it succeeds in doing nothing else than disposing of this sham in a satisfactory manner, the convention will justify its sitting." We leave it to your superior wisdom to find out a plan by which the really worthy and moneyless are to be provided for, other than by the wholesale system of debauchery at present indulged in by some."

Although the witness has by no means exhausted his utterances on "the miserable beneficiary sham," he has surely said enough for the present. Hear him now on the name of the Louisville Medical College :

The Ultimatum of the News : You should not, as you have done during the last seven years, imitate the title of another institution. You well know that three out of four of the men who receive the catalogues and scholarships of the "Louisville Medical College" very naturally suppose it is the "University of Louisville" which has issued them, and the suspicion that the name was adopted for a purpose has been very well founded.

About the same time he declared—

We fight for the common good of the profession, and we feel that we ought every where to be upheld.

We have felt all along that in our attempts to expose the state of affairs which exists in the Louisville School we labored under the

disadvantage of proving too much. The professional mind is slow to believe that such an enormity could exist any where.

The most charitable construction to put upon the actions of the Louisville School would be to regard them as those of an irresponsible being. If they do not condemn it to an asylum, they certainly should lodge it in a medical calaboose.

We have been obliged to lecture it and warn the community against it for a year past. Should we ever succeed in getting it straight, we will let you know; but in the mean time have nothing to do with it.

Said the salutatorian of the class on the evening of the commencement, "The Louisville Medical College is inferior to no *similar* institution in this country." *We ask, is there from Alaska to the Florida Reefs an institution similar to the Louisville Medical College?*

We have proved all these things.

The reward has been that scarcely two years have passed by, and the enemy here has been made a laughing-stock all over the country, and is in the throes of dissolution.

He then addresses a few words to the teachers in the Louisville Medical College which we commend to the present faculty:

There is no reason in the world why you should not make an honest living as teachers. There was no occasion for you to do all those disreputable things to get students, and you ought not to have allowed yourselves to be led into them. Of course we had to stop them. Do not be led off again, or rest assured we will come down on you once more.

Will they not learn that special pleadings can not prevail against the broad principles of truth; and, seeing now that honor is lost, spurn the temptation offered by a miserable pittance to defend a wretched cause?

We wish them (the faculty) personally every success. We would not turn a single dollar from its course toward their pockets.

[In both which sentiments I join most heartily.]

But private interests must yield to the public good.

The News then has the following for the students who were in attendance at the Louisville Medical College:

When you get by yourselves, where outside students can't see you, and forget for a moment how cruelly you have been taken in, don't

you kill yourselves laughing at the fearful sell which goes by the name of Phenomenon? [Louisville Medical College.] We know you do; and we know, too, that when you get safely home in January or February you are going to quit, then and there.

The next paragraph foreshadows the early surrender of the Louisville Medical College, and the News begins to soften, its declarations to the contrary notwithstanding.

We felt we had dealt the Phenomenon such blows that it must surely die. It was painful to us to invite against it its own blades.

"We have got it," says the News, "apparently into the College Association. We care very little about the blather it utters about wanting all this sort of thing, and being sorry that it did n't go further. We know humbug when we see it, especially when we look at it for seven years or so. We know how polite the word humbug can be. We have hammered it for months to our heart's and readers' content. We have said every thing we could possibly say about it, and proved it. We have run it into its hole."

If he will surrender these assumed privileges and get some responsible party to go on his bond for him, we will not only let him come out, but will divide our commissariat with him. We have not a bloodthirsty feeling in our bosom, and long for a return of peace.

The formal surrender of the Phenomenon occurred soon after, when the News wrote :

We are willing—nay, anxious—to extend to it a helping hand until it gets fairly started along the paths of decency.

We have succeeded before another bar—that of professional opinion—in condemning the former practices of the Louisville Medical College, and leading it into better paths.

It would be unfair to truth if I omitted to state that the News was the one and chief enemy of the Louisville Medical College throughout. All the time this sheet was engaged in warring on that institution, one of its editors, the witness, was a simple practitioner of medicine, connected with no medical school whatever. He claimed to be, and evidently was, without bias or prejudice attacking pretence, charlatanry, and deceit in whatever place and shape they were found in the profession.

A bold champion of the right, fighting for a higher medical education, a higher grade of medical students, a higher standard of morals in medical schools, and inculcating a better life in all ranks, he shared with Professor Cowling the perils and the glories of the campaign which he helped to conduct. And when at its close he resigned his editorial seat, he took with him the thanks of the profession for the part he had borne in the struggle.

Six years later—I write it with infinite pain—he, while holding a professorship in the Louisville Medical College and editing its organ, the Medical Herald, publishes that “*The Louisville Medical College has been pursued in the Past by as ABLE A BODY OF PERJURERS, MENDACIOUS SCRIBBLERS, AND UNSCRUPULOUS SLANDERERS AS EXIST IN THE LAND.*”

This from him!

I will stop here. I set out to expose the character, antecedents, and practices of the institution which, in the newspaper press, in a circular letter, and in the columns of its organ, the Medical Herald, has assailed the University of Louisville for having asked it in a courteous way to cease to do evil and learn to do right. I submit that I have done so.

DAVID W. YANDELL.

LOUISVILLE, KY.

SUPPLEMENT.

SECOND CONVICTION

BEFORE THE BAR OF PROFESSIONAL OPINION.

DR. DAVID W. YANDELL

AGAINST

THE LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

Prosecution for
Shameful
and
Unprofessional
Conduct.

THE VERDICT OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

SPECIAL FINDINGS in the case as given in representative journals of American Medicine, from Boston to San Francisco, from Detroit to New Orleans, and from North Carolina to Texas, concerning the character and practices of the Louisville Medical College, pronouncing thus:

1. "Character that would disgrace any respectable school."
"Scandalous conduct." "Disgraceful practices."
2. "Practices that would degrade a lightning-rod peddler."
3. "Shocking prostitution."
4. "No board of health can consistently RECOGNIZE
THEIR DIPLOMA."
5. "Degrading and disgraceful practices." "Degrading both
the teachers and the students." "The thanks of the
profession are due Dr. Yandell for the performance of
this unpleasant duty."
6. "Flagrant violation of propriety." "Infamous, and can
not be too severely denounced."
7. "The profession of Louisville, and of Kentucky owe it to
themselves as well as to the profession abroad to take
immediate steps to suppress or abolish it." "This blot
upon our educational institutions."

THE UNANIMOUS VERDICT:

GUILTY!

LOUISVILLE MEDICAL COLLEGE.—The Louisville Medical College is a most irregular regular school. The means taken by it to get students are no better than the tricks of Buchanan. Its graduates are refused licenses by several Examining Boards, and will be refused by all as soon as the character of the school shall have been fully exposed. (*Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal*.)

The February issue of the AMERICAN PRACTITIONER contains an article by Dr. David W. Yandell, to which those who are interested in maintaining any professional or educational medical standard in this country are particularly referred. The practice there exposed, if truthfully reported—and we see no reason to doubt it—make, at this distance, very unpleasant reading, and in Louisville itself can hardly result otherwise than in degrading both the teachers and the students directly concerned in them. (*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*.)

Dr. David W. Yandell, in a supplement to the PRACTITIONER, makes a reply to the circular and newspaper article recently issued by the Louisville Medical College. It makes a bad showing for the latter institution. Still it seemed to us that the faculty circular and newspaper article more certainly condemn the Louisville Medical College than even this paper of Yandell. (*Detroit Lancet*.)

Dr. Yandell no doubt has inflicted heavy damage on the school by the convincing and detailed *expose* which he makes of certain irregular and even disgraceful practices which were apparently indulged in by the "College" men in order to secure large patronage. (*N. O. Medical and Surgical Journal*.)

We had not suspected such shocking prostitution of the powers of a college as has been shown by Dr. D. W. Yandell to have been practiced by the Louisville Medical College. Dr. Yandell deserves the thanks of the profession for taking such a fearless stand against these gross abuses. (*N. C. Medical Journal*.)

We had looked to see the Louisville Medical College, whose honor and future welfare and, indeed, whose existence are all involved in these grave charges, and which depend upon their successful refutation, at once enter a prompt denial, or, at least, a quick repudiation of their author, and to at once sever his connection with their school. Indeed, it seems to us that there was no other course open to them, if they would save the honor and integrity of their school. The profession of medicine throughout the United States was at first shocked, surprised, and then indignant. They have waited with bated breath the issue, indulging still the hope that it may not

be so bad as painted. But, instead of a denial or a disclaimer, or any repudiation of the author of those letters, the officers of the school have sent out a unique circular, a kind of nondescript document, folded in the *Louisville Courier* (a secular paper), which begs the entire question. If it is any thing, it is a *tacit acknowledgement* of the *authorship of the letters*; and a faint attempt at *vindication* of the course on the ground that *other schools had cut under on the established rates!* In this circular the writer attempts to divert attention from themselves by a feeble effort at ridicule of the Faculty of the University. It is a shameful subterfuge, and without point. It is the most spiteful yet impotent production we have ever seen emanating from so respectable a source. There is in it an attempt to ridicule a certain distinguished dermatologist, who is supposed to be the leading spirit in the recent exposition of the "ways which are dark and tricks that are vain," as exemplified by those famous (or shall we say infamous?) letters. These gentlemen will find that the disease of which they are accused is more than *skin deep*, and the surgeon, not the dermatologist, must deal with it; and that Dr. Rauch, who has officiated in that capacity more than once, and has lopped off several diseased members, will be called on to amputate the Louisville limb from the corporate body of medical colleges. This will be the inevitable fate of the college unless they can make a better defense than they have done in this weak circular. It must be. The profession and the people will demand it. They will arise in their wrath and demand the revokal of their charter; for if such practices, which should bring the hot blood of shame to the flinty cheek of a Buchanan, be not rebuked, frowned down, repudiated, spurned with contempt, for by such not only is disgrace brought upon themselves but upon the whole of the present generation, and upon the very fair name of Medicine—and the perpetrators should be made to feel the contempt and just indignation of an outraged constituency.

We wish it were otherwise, but really there appears to us no way by which the Louisville Medical College can escape conviction on these grave charges; and conviction means death to their career as a medical school, for surely no board of health *can* consistently, hereafter, recognize their diploma unless they can disprove the whole affair; an impossibility, apparently. We must say we admire the calm, dignified, and gentlemanly manner in which Professor Yandell handles the subject; the patience he has shown under great provocation; the fact that he, while skinning the school as a corporation, is considerate to a fault of the gentlemen composing the faculty. He says he is

"dealing with measures, not men." (*The Texas Courier-Record of Medicine*.)

Practices which would degrade a lightning-rod peddler, or a runner for the bath-houses and quacks of Hot Springs. (*Alienist and Neurologist*, St. Louis.)

The Louisville Medical College has relapsed into its old tricks. This school—which must not be confounded with the University of Louisville—was convicted some years since of drumming up students by means of so-called beneficiary scholarships. After a thorough exposure the college promised to give up the reprehensible practice, and as an evidence of reformation joined the Association of Medical Colleges. But it appears that under the guise of virtue it has continued its career of prostitution. A recent issue of the *AMERICAN PRACTITIONER* contains a supplement by Dr. David W. Yandell, of Louisville, in which he again convicts the before-mentioned institution of its former scandalous conduct. The evidence produced by Dr. Yandell is so convincing as to leave no doubt that the individual members of the Faculty of the Louisville Medical College have been writing to medical students in various States, soliciting them to attend that school, and offering tuition at a greatly reduced rate under the very thin disguise of beneficiary scholarships. The letters published by Dr. Yandell—and he states he has more of them from the same sources—are of a character which would disgrace any respectable school; they are filled with vainglorious boasts, puffs of the Louisville concern, and insinuations as to the worthlessness of rival colleges. It is to be hoped that this *expose* will be effective in either suppressing the Louisville Medical College, or forcing it to alter its course. (*The Weekly Medical Review*, Chicago and St. Louis.)

The Louisville Medical College, both by official and private letters, has been proven to have offered great reductions in fees to prospective students, as well as to have used decidedly irregular methods of securing students. These charges seem to have been substantiated beyond question, and from the reply filed by the defendant we are still more convinced of the truth of the charges. There are some denials which are virtual confessions, and this seems to be one of that class. The Louisville Medical College, instead of denying and proving that the offensive letters were not indited by its officers and faculty, rather turn their attention to a personal skirmish with Prof. D. W. Yandell, who is the self-constituted champion of the University. The Louisville Medical College also endeavors to lay the charges to a mere

jealousy on the part of its opponent, in that the former has the larger classes. If the charges as made against the Louisville Medical College are true, it is censurable in the highest degree. If so, the medical profession and students of the country are deeply indebted to Professor Yandell for the exposure of such infamous practices. If not so, the Louisville Medical College should prove their falsity and cease the personal warfare which it is waging at present. No one is more injured by personal journalism than the author thereof, and malicious slings at a spotless character but redound to the benefit of the person assailed. (*St. Joseph Medical Herald.*)

This practice of giving large discounts off the published fees is infamous and can not be too severely denounced. It is an encouraging sign to see the general condemnation which the Louisville Medical College is having meted out to it. (*The Medical Age.*)

The Medical Herald, of Louisville, Ky., has passed into the control of the Louisville Medical College. This is the college whose contemptible bidding for students was exposed by Dr. Reeves, of West Virginia, in his address at Detroit. In its mud-flinging at rivals and laudation of its own school, the journal, under the new *regime*, indicates that its mistress is no better than she has been painted. Louisville is to be pitied. (*Columbus Medical Journal.*)

For some months past, we have been receiving circulars and newspapers containing most disparaging comments on the Faculty of the University of Louisville, apparently emanating from parties connected with the Louisville Medical College. On the other hand, our attention has been recently called to a supplementary paper in the February number of the AMERICAN PRACTITIONER, written by Dr. D. W. Yandell, Professor of Surgery and of Clinical Surgery in the University of Louisville, in which he shows most clearly that from the Faculty of the Louisville Medical College has come the numerous letters to students in all parts of the country directly soliciting their attendance in that institution at half the published rate of charges, under the pretense of issuing "beneficiary scholarships," etc., some of which have attracted the attention and been commented upon by the Secretaries of the West Virginia and Illinois State Boards of Health. The letters given in full by Dr. Yandell, with names and dates, are sufficient to show that the Louisville Medical College during the last year has been reviving the disgraceful practices so freely indulged in former years, by what was known as the double-head Louisville-Kentucky School of Medicine. How men of education, and sometimes of rare

talents, can allow themselves to pursue policies and indulge in practices, in the name of a medical college, which they would instinctively shrink from as disgraceful in their individual professional capacity is a mystery to us. (*Journal of the American Medical Association.*)

Documents are published showing that this institution began last summer systematically to canvass for students, offering to many a reduction in the advertised price of tuition. Such practices are certainly not reputable, and in the end must hurt the reputation and standing of the college which indulges in them. Institutions for medical instruction which have to beg and underbid for students, or lobby for free scholarships, have survived their usefulness. We can only urge it upon the medical profession that they lend countenance and support only to such institutions as show themselves conscious of the dignity of the profession and of the deep responsibilities that fall upon medical teachers at the present time. (*The Medical Record.*)

The *exposé* by Dr. David W. Yandell, in the February issue of the AMERICAN PRACTITIONER, of the recent proceedings of the Louisville Medical College is, to say the least, humiliating to those who had commenced to hope that the profession in America was becoming more elevated in tone as it was growing in intelligence. Judging from the practices of some of the professors of this "foremost school in the country," before and after their connection with it, it would seem that association with some medical colleges, at least, is as demoralizing as horse-trading. We have ourselves seen one of the letters offering to take students on the so-called "beneficiary"-reduction-rate basis which have been published by Dr. Yandell. It was sent to a student of medicine, and offered largely reduced rates, and urged the claims of the Louisville Medical College and of Louisville, "the medical center of the South and West, the healthiest large city in America; beyond the reach of yellow fever," etc. We sincerely trust that some efficient remedy for such degrading and disgraceful practices, "hurtful to the best interests of medical teaching, medical men, and medical students," shall be speedily discovered. Till then, the best that can be done is to expose such practices to public gaze and public scorn, and the thanks of the profession are due Dr. Yandell for the fearless performance of this unpleasant duty. (*Medical News*, Philadelphia.)

While we do not share the alarm with which many look upon the increase of the medical body, it can not be questioned that to stimulate this increase, and especially by devices which are in themselves

debasement, should be opposed with all the force at the command of the profession. From this point of view, it seems to us, medical men all over the country should feel under obligations to Dr. David W. Yandell, of Louisville, for his vigorous denunciation of the practice of soliciting the young men to become students of medicine as beneficiaries. The beneficiary system is open, we think, to very grave objections at best. The practice of medicine is getting to be more and more a calling in which something beyond natural aptitude and reasonable educational qualification is needed to make the prospect of material success at all inviting—in one form or another capital is growing to be an element in the conditions that conduce to success. To lure young men, then, into a career in which they will almost necessarily find themselves handicapped from the start is what this solicitation of beneficiary students amounts to. From the statements made in Dr. Yandell's article (a signed supplement to the February number of the *AMERICAN PRACTITIONER*), the conclusion seems unavoidable that at least one of our colleges is in the habit of exceeding the utmost stretch of decency in the matter of beneficiaries. The devices resorted to, as given by Dr. Yandell, in the form of letters from various members of the faculty to young men of whose intention of studying medicine they seem to have become aware casually, if not as the result of something quite akin to the emigrant-runner's modes of canvassing, we do not hesitate to say are nothing short of disgraceful. Fortunately, so flagrant a violation of propriety will undoubtedly work its own cure—whether to the confusion of the offending college or to a change in its policy, is a question of small moment. (*New York Medical Journal*.)

Prof. Hooper, ex-Vice-President of the American Medical Association, President of the Medical Department of Arkansas Industrial University, writes:

The evidence you have given in your paper about the flagrant conduct of the Louisville Medical College has been known to the profession in Kentucky and abroad for a long time, and why the thing has not been boldly denounced by the medical men of your State is a mystery to many of our friends. Why does your State Medical Society remain so silent over such a crying evil? If such a concern as that is represented to be had an existence in Arkansas, the profession throughout the State would rise up as one man in denunciation and disapprobation of such unblushing and infamous conduct. If the charges that have been made about that institution are true

(and I have seen nothing to controvert them), the profession of Louisville and of Kentucky owe it to themselves, as well as to the profession abroad, to take immediate steps to suppress or abolish it. This unpleasant duty of exposing, for the purpose of suppressing such nuisances or abuses, should not be allowed to devolve on one man or a certain number of men, but the whole profession in the localities where these things abound should unite for the common good in an earnest effort to wipe out or efface this blot upon our educational institutions.

P. O. HOOPER.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

W. F. Westmoreland, M.D., Professor of Surgery in Atlanta Medical College, Dean of the Faculty, former Editor of Atlanta Medical Journal, writes:

Dr. D. W. Vandell:

I have just read your article showing up your *world-renowned canvassers*. We know something of the Louisville Medical College down this way. Our secretary received a number of letters last fall from students to whom they were sent. Just which Professor or Assistant has this State, I do not now recollect; but from the number sent us by students in Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina, I should judge that the Professor or Assistant or whoever was "delegated" this territory did his duty well. I asked our secretary to send them to you.

And the Louisville Medical College has in good earnest returned to her dirty and disgusting tricks. They must throw off the cloak of respectability and go "whole hog" into money-making by diploma vending.

W. F. WESTMORELAND.

ATLANTA, GA., March, 1884.

The Medical Association of Alabama, at its meeting in April, struck the Louisville Medical College off the list of **REPUTABLE MEDICAL COLLEGES**.

